Education
MANITOBA

Volume 4
Number 1
October 2005

Published by School Programs Division (Kindergarten to Senior 4) of Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth

Community Schools Partnership Initiative Provides Supports to Schools in Manitoba: A Message from the Minister

The Community Schools Partnership Initiative (CSPI) was formally introduced in the January 2005 Funding of Schools announcement. This is an interdepartmental initiative that will serve to complement other neighbourhood-based initiatives and access resources. Initiated to support low socio-economic status communities, this project is targeting 15 schools for a pilot project in 2005-06. Six of the schools receiving funding supports are in the Winnipeg School Division, three are in the remainder of the City of Winnipeg, and six are in the City of Brandon and rural/northern Manitoba.

Based on the SchoolPLUS Community School Framework from Saskatchewan, the Community Schools Partnership Initiative is designed to foster and enhance community education philosophy and practices. The SchoolPLUS Framework provides the comprehensive range of supports and approaches intended to meet the diverse needs of children, youth, and their families. It also provides the basis upon which schools will develop their own responses to meet their specific objectives.

During April 2005, three information sessions were held to inform superintendents, schools, and community agencies of the initiative, and to address any questions prior to the proposal submission deadlines. Schools receiving funding in the first phase of this initiative were chosen based on a process followed by a team of reviewers. Selection of the schools was based on proposals, submitted by school divisions, which indicated a particular school's initiative to develop partnership capacity with parent and community leaders, and representatives from relevant community agencies. By outlining the conditions and needs of the school/community, schools can develop a plan to address them.

Schools indicated their program and resource requirements in their proposals. Areas of focus included: parent and community involvement in school curriculum and educational programs; community use of school facilities; early childhood development programming; extra-curricular programs for children and youth; programs to strengthen neighbourhood and family life; initiatives to promote the coordination and delivery of existing services in the local neighbourhood; development and support of representative community and school groups including parent councils, resident associations, tenant associations, and issue-based groups; and leadership and professional development training regarding community school partnerships and capacity building.

The first year is a developmental year, with funding provided to build community partnerships and a community school partnership strategic plan. Professional and leadership development training began in the fall of 2005. Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth will work with other government departments and community organizations to develop a broad capacity to support community initiatives and develop resources to support the schools.

The Community Schools Partnership Initiative is intended to maximize the involvement of people and organizations in the identification and utilization of community resources, in support of providing the best possible education to students in our schools and communities. It is about making our schools student-ready, as well as expecting our students to be school-ready. It is about developing a community identity, a neighbourhood sense of involvement and spirit, and about achieving successful development and learning outcomes for Manitoba's students.

Honourable Peter Bjornson
Minister of Education, Citizenship and Youth

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Update on the Manitoba K-S4 Agenda for Student Success

This issue updates items of interest from the Agenda's six priorities.

1. Improving outcomes, especially for less successful learners
   - —Manitoba's 2003-04 report on student performance is available online at <www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/docs/reports/profile04/index.html>.
   - —The regulations to accompany Bill 13, Appropriate Educational Programming, are targeted for release in the fall of 2005.
   - —*A Handbook for Developing and Implementing Programming for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder* is online at <www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/specedu/aut/index.html>.
   - —The Department's *English as a Second Language Action Plan* is online at <www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/cur/diversity/esl/>.
   - —*Technology as a Foundation Skill (TFS)—A Model for Implementation* is being piloted during the 2005-06 school year. For information, go to <www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/tech/tfs/>.
2. Strengthening links among schools, families and communities
   - —*School Partnerships: A Guide for Parents, Schools, and Communities* is a resource guide to assist school advisory groups as partners in supporting student success. It is online at <www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/specedu/school_partnerships>.

For links to Agenda documents and further information, visit the Agenda website at <www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/agenda>.

3. Strengthening school planning and reporting
   - —This fall the Department will publish a provincial review of school and division planning reports for 2003-04 and 2004-05.
4. Improving learning opportunities for educators
   - —*The Manitoba Professional Learning Process* support document is being developed.
   - —For information on professional learning, go to <www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/proflearn/index.html>.
5. Strengthening pathways among secondary schools, post-secondary education and work
   - —Consultations on the Technical-Vocational Education Initiative will continue in the fall of 2005.
   - —Two research projects, Future to Discover and Making Education Work, began implementation in the fall of 2005.
6. Linking policy and practice to research and evidence
   - —The Department continues to support the Manitoba Education Research Network, which has a slate of activities planned for 2005-06. More information can be found at <www.mern.ca>.

Curriculum Update

Development

Several projects are underway in the 2005-06 school year to develop new curricula for the K-S4 English Program:

- K-S4 Arts Education (Music, Dance, Drama, Visual Arts)
- Industrial Arts
- Psychology
- Senior 4 Aboriginal Studies
- English as a Second Language

Implementation timelines for these projects will be announced at a later date.

Implementation

Implementation is underway in the curricular areas identified in the chart to the right.

Important Notes:

- 30G science curricula were discontinued as of June 2005
- 40G science curricula are to be discontinued as of June 2006

Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment Branch will provide support for curriculum implementation and related professional learning during 2005-06. Information about regional workshops will be posted on the workshop registration system at <www2.edu.gov.mb.ca/yag/>.

For a listing of compulsory curricula and stock numbers for ordering from the Manitoba Text Book Bureau, refer to <www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/cur/csai.html>.

Implementation Timelines

	Curriculum	Voluntary Implementation	System-Wide Implementation
Compulsory	Social Studies: K-4	2004-06	2006-07
	Social Studies: 5-8 and S1	2005-07	2007-08
	Social Studies: S2*	2005-07	2007-08 (new date)
	Social Studies: S3	TBA	TBA
Optional	Social Studies: S4	TBA	TBA
	Current Topics in the Sciences: S3		2005-06
	Integrated Science: S4	2005-06	2006-07
	Biology: S3*	2005-06	2006-07 (new date)
	Biology: S4	2005-06	2006-07
	Chemistry: S3	2005-06	2006-07
	Chemistry: S4	2006-07	2007-08
	Physics: S4		2005-06
	Aboriginal Languages: K-4	2005-07	2007-08
	Aboriginal Languages: 5-8	TBA	TBA
	Information and Communication Technology: Senior Years	2006-07	2007-08
	Computer Science: S2 and S3	2004-05	2005-06
	Computer Science: S4	2005-06	2006-07
	Family Studies: Senior Years	2005-06	2006-07
	Industrial Arts: Senior Years	2006-07	2007-08
	Ukrainian Language Arts: K-S4	2005-06	2006-07
	German Language Arts: K-S4	2005-06	2006-07

**Denotes courses with newly extended periods of voluntary implementation*

Handbooks Help Students to Focus on the Future

Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth has published three documents to assist students in planning for the future: a career planning handbook, a grad planner, and a career portfolio guide.

Focus on the Future: Career Planning Begins at Home

This handbook is designed for parents of students in Middle Years schools to encourage parents and their children to begin thinking about, and discussing, career exploration. Middle Years is an excellent place to start the career planning journey, as students are developing self-esteem, discovering their many skills, and becoming curious about the world of work.

Many parents want information about how to provide career planning assistance and how to plan for their children's post-secondary education. Parents can be one of the greatest career planning allies for their children if they better understand career development, have more information about resources, and are more aware of the role they can play. *Focus on the Future: Career Planning Begins at Home* provides parents with tools to be involved in a positive way as their children travel along their journey.

Focus on the Future: Your Grad Planner

Focus on the Future: Your Grad Planner was developed to help Grade 8 and Senior 1 students start a new chapter in their education: high school. The planner helps students learn about the requirements for high school graduation, the importance of career exploration during high school, and ways to pay for their future education. The document also suggests resources to assist students in their planning.

A Self-Managed Career Portfolio Guide

As more people, by both choice and necessity, embrace self-employment, contract work, and consulting work, the ability to demonstrate one's skills and knowledge to prospective employers and post-secondary institutions becomes crucial for success. *A Self-Managed Career Portfolio Guide* serves as a tool to guide students in achieving success in the challenging world of work. The portfolio turns career development into a dynamic process that involves students, teachers, and parents.

The Department has also launched the Career Portfolio Certificate, which recognizes students' successful completion of a portfolio.

Both resources are available at no cost to all high school students and other interested youth.

For more information or to obtain copies of these resources, go online at: <www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/cur/car_dev.html>, or contact

Tom Prins
Career Development Consultant
Telephone: 204-945-7974
Email: tprins@gov.mb.ca

Future to Discover Pilot Project Launched

Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth, in partnership with the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation, has launched the Future to Discover Pilot Research Project.

Approximately 1000 Senior 2 students from 21 high schools are participating in the project. For the next three years, half of these students—randomly assigned to a program group—and their parents/guardians will be provided with information about career choices, the benefits of post-secondary education, and the different types of post-secondary education available. The other 500 students, who comprise the comparison group, will also be followed throughout Senior 2 to Senior 4.

Participants will be tracked for one year after graduation to determine the extent to which the programming encouraged them to complete their Senior Years studies and successfully pursue their choice of post-secondary education.

Six facilitators have been hired to implement the Future to Discover project in a series of after-school workshops. The facilitators will be assisted by post-secondary ambassadors who will share their experience as students in college, apprenticeship programs, and university programs, and provide positive role models for participants in the project.

For more information, contact

Connie Drystek
Provincial Coordinator
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The project sites are:

- Collège Louis-Riel
- Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School
- Dakota Collegiate
- Dauphin Regional Comprehensive Secondary School
- Edward Schreyer School
- Garden City Collegiate
- Garden Valley Collegiate
- Hapnot Collegiate
- Kildonan East Collegiate
- Margaret Barbour Collegiate Institute
- Miles Macdonnell Collegiate
- Morden Collegiate
- Neelin High School
- Nelson McIntyre Collegiate
- St. Norbert Collegiate
- Ste. Anne Collegiate
- Silver Heights Collegiate
- Springfield Collegiate
- Stonewall Collegiate
- Sturgeon Creek Collegiate
- West Kildonan Collegiate

Manitoba Moves Forward on Educating for Sustainability

In Manitoba, students, educators, school administrators, custodians, local and national not-for-profit organizations, community volunteers, civil servants, and many others are working together to prepare students to live sustainably on the planet.

Educating for Sustainability (EfS) focuses on preparing individuals to live sustainably, and refers to a process for thinking, teaching, and learning principles for sustainability that include knowledge, values, and attitudes. These principles lead to informed and involved students who have creative decision-making and problem-solving skills; scientific, social, economic, and ecological literacy; and commitment to engage in responsible individual and co-operative actions that lead to a sustainable future.

The following initiatives are examples of what has been happening in Manitoba in 2005 to prepare students to live and contribute positively to the interrelated environmental, economic, and social systems of which they are a part.

Youth Taking Action Forums and Teacher Workshops

Over 260 Middle Years and Senior Years students and teachers from 35 Winnipeg schools joined 35 local businesses, government organizations, and community organizations at a two-day Sustainable Communities: Linking Education to Action Forum, held in Winnipeg on February 15 and March 22, 2005.

Delivered by Learning for a Sustainable Future (a not-for-profit Canadian organization founded in 1991 to incorporate sustainable development education into Canada's education systems), the two-day event was part of a province-wide initiative/partnership to heighten awareness of local sustainability issues, encourage community involvement and partnerships, and empower students to take action.

The first day of the two-day forum was held at the University of Manitoba. Students, educators, and community resource individuals heard inspiring speakers share their views on sustainability. The Honourable Peter Bjornson, Manitoba Minister of Education, Citizenship and Youth, provided greetings and expressed support for the important role that youth play in contributing to a sustainable future through active citizenship. Sierra Noble, a 14-year-old Winnipeg student, fiddler, and Youth Landmine Ambassador for the Manitoba campaign to ban landmines, presented the keynote speech and talked about The Power of One.

While educators were involved in a professional development workshop to provide them with tools and techniques to work with students on action projects focused on sustainability, workshop presenters worked with students to address local social, environmental, and economic issues through skill-building and success story workshops. The workshops focused on topics such as water, waste minimization, food security, climate change, community economic development, and other related issues.

After the first day, students and educators began working together on the development of action plans to address sustainability issues. This activity prepared them for the second day of the forum (March 22), which provided more opportunities for students to hear inspiring stories about students making a difference, individually and collectively, in enhancing environmental, economic, and social factors. Students, educators, and workshop presenters continued the development of action plans for implementation in Manitoba schools and communities in 2005-06 and beyond.

For more information, contact

Elaine Rubinoff
Director of Programs and Administration,
Learning for a Sustainable Future
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Email: rubinoff@yorku.ca

2005 Manitoba Envirothon

Another successful Manitoba Envirothon competition was held May 12-14, 2005, at the University of Manitoba. Teams from as far north as Norway House and Thompson joined teams from Swan River, Gimli, Brandon, Portage la Prairie, and Winnipeg. Students and advisors participated in the program and competed in the pre-competition workshop at Lower Fort Garry, and the competition at the University of Manitoba and King's Park.

The Manitoba Envirothon is an educational program that increases students' awareness of the environment, ecosystems, and the natural balance and complexity of these ecosystems. The program promotes team learning and study methods; provides students with an opportunity to travel and experience different views on environmental issues, concerns, and concepts; and provides educators with a new and exciting addition to their science, social studies, geography, current affairs, and environmental studies curricula.

The project was supported by 40 companies, government departments, and individuals. Seventy-eight volunteers from a wide range of groups, organizations, and government departments, and Manitoba Forestry Association staff, were responsible for all aspects of the planning and delivery, including logistics, trail testing, communications, and fundraising.

The Manitoba Envirothon was launched in 1996 by the Manitoba Forestry Association (MFA). Since that time, the MFA has organized annual competitions in Manitoba, in co-operation with numerous partners and volunteers.

Youth Stewardship in Environmental Sustainability Showcase

On May 7, 2005, 36 students from 20 schools participated in the 2005 Annual Youth Stewardship in Environmental Sustainability Project (Y.S.E.S.P.) at Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre. The showcase celebrated the success of many champions who conducted sustainability projects on a variety of topics, communicating the importance of balancing human needs with environmental preservation.

Student projects included:

- Mosquito-Free without Malathion
- What Effect Does Oil Have on Water Plants?
- How to Make an Ant say "Uncle"
- Cattail, Supermarket of the Swamp
- Nature Filters
- Ethanol-Blended Gasoline (The Most Promising Fuel of the 21st Century)
- Harry Water and the Tower of Light
- Go for a Spin
- The Power of Electromagnets
- Worm Burst
- Mono Environment: Don't Wreck It
- Les Produits qui enlevent la Bacterie
- Green Fuels for a Green Tomorrow
- How Do Farmers Interfere with Wildlife Habitats?
- Hamster-Powered Light
- Worms: The Real Deal
- It's Not the Prescription the Doctor Ordered
- Novel Uses for Nutraceutical Compounds from Oat (Avena sativa L.)
- Disgusting Diapers Decomposing
- Leech Bot: Biologically Inspired Robot
- Disinfection Effect of Chlorine Dioxide on Protozoa
- WRT—Winnipeg Rapid Transit
- HIV/AIDS: A Global Pandemic

Congratulations to St. Paul's High School students Lee Haber, Kristofer Bergmann, and Adam Prokopanko for winning a Platinum certificate and the Senior 4 scholarship for 2005 for their project, "WRT—Winnipeg Rapid Transit."

Congratulations to Bruce Middle School student Nirusan Jayaranjan for winning a Platinum certificate and the Award of Excellence for 2005 for her project, "Green Fuels for a Green Tomorrow."

For more information, contact

Dr. Heather Robinson
Chairperson, Y.S.E.S.P. Board
Telephone: 204-284-5012
Email: hrobinson@wsd1.org

Congratulations to all teams that participated in the 2005 Manitoba Envirothon! The winners were:

1st Place: Fairholme Colony School (advisor: Anna Maendel)

2nd Place: Swan Valley Regional Secondary School (advisor: Rick Wowchuk)

3rd Place: Vincent Massey Collegiate, Winnipeg (advisor: Barbara Fuller)

4th Place: Vincent Massey High School, Brandon (advisor: Michael De Groot)

For more information, contact

Dianne Beaven
Executive Director, Manitoba Forestry Association
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Website: <www.mbforestryassoc.ca>

Four Manitoba Schools Receive UNESCO Designation

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has officially designated four Manitoba schools as UNESCO-associated schools, following three years in the Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet). Established in 1953, ASPnet is a global network of more than 7000 schools (and teacher training institutions) in over 170 countries around the world.

The four schools include Brock Corydon, John Pritchard, Institut collégial Vincent Massey, and Collège Jeanne-Sauvé. River East Collegiate was also recognized as an ASPnet candidate school.

ASPnet promotes peace through local, national, and international partnerships in the areas of human rights, democracy and tolerance, intercultural learning, and environmental issues. Sustainable development was the overarching focus, wherein students and teachers learned about environmental, economic, and social perspectives. Manitoba's spokespeople for ASPnet include Fred Penner, Al Simmons, and educator Gareth Neufeld.

For more information, contact:

Linda Mlodzinski
Social Studies Consultant
Telephone: 204-945-6873
Email: lmodzinski@gov.mb.ca

Energy Efficiency: Power Smart Energy Manager Project

The Power Smart Energy Manager (PSEM) project was established in August 2001 as a unique two-year pilot project between the Pembina Trails School Division and Manitoba Hydro through the Power Smart Department.

It was anticipated that a significant reduction in annual facility utility costs could be achieved through the project. A variety of energy-related curriculum support materials were prepared and made available to teachers to increase student awareness about energy efficiency and responsible use of resources. Staff-development materials, including "Energy Efficient Best Practices in the Workplace" and "A Culture of Energy Efficiency in the Workplace" were also prepared and made available to teaching staff and custodial personnel in all facilities.

Recommendations for changes in systems operating procedures were developed, and opportunities to increase resource efficiencies were identified and incorporated into site-specific Resource Efficiency Plans. Retrofitting of classroom and gymnasium lighting systems, upgrading of HVAC control systems, and modification of water fixtures in student washrooms were major initiatives of the project.

The total expenditures over a four-year period are estimated at $465,000. The total annual utility costs for water and sewage, electricity, and natural gas were reduced by more than $37,000 by the end of the first year of the project. By the end of the second year, annual utility costs were reduced by $113,000, and by the end of the third year, annual utility costs had been reduced by $224,000, for a total "avoided costs" in the amount of $375,000 over a three-year period. Based on these data, projected savings over a ten-year period are estimated to be in excess of $1,750,000.

In addition to the fiscal reductions, there is evidence that attitudes of staff and students to energy and resource usage have changed significantly. In June 2003, the project was extended for an additional two-year period to permit implementation in all sites within the new Pembina Trails School Division. The PSEM project now involves a total of 13,000 students and some 1400 staff. The project extension was adapted to provide additional focus on the relationship between climate change, greenhouse gas emissions, sustainable development, and inefficient energy usage.

A Handbook of Power Smart Energy Efficiency Learning Resources has been distributed by Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth as a support document to the Interdisciplinary Middle Years Multimedia unit entitled *Inventions, Innovations, and Discoveries: A Grade 6 Interdisciplinary Middle Years (IMYM) Unit for Teachers.* As well, the Honourable Tim Sale, former Minister of Energy, Science and Technology, recognized the value and efficacy of this program and announced in December 2003 that an initiative modelled on the PSEM concept could be extended to all school divisions in the province through a new government efficiency agency. Since then, the agency has been under development in conjunction with Manitoba Hydro and other important partners, and an announcement on its launch is expected this year.

For information, contact

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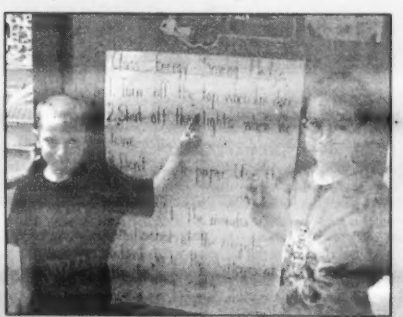
Power Smart Coordinator, Pembina Trails School Division
Telephone: 204-479-1834
Email: psaurette@pembinatrails.ca

Colleen Kuruluk
Manitoba Hydro
Telephone: 204-474-4924
Email: ckuruluk@hydro.mb.ca

Building Design Standards Manual

Energy management and alternative energy sources are of growing interest in the building industry. A number of environmentally friendly, energy-efficient features will be incorporated into the design of new schools. The Public Schools Finance Board (PSFB) is formulating a *Building Design Standards Manual* to describe in more detail the technical aspects of the schools it funds. The scope of the design manual will include "green building" parameters such as environmental and energy stewardship, durability, sustainability, suitable siting guidelines, improved indoor environmental conditions, and integrated design process. PSFB is considering the adoption of LEEDS certification (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards for new schools.



For more information, contact

Robert Goluch
Executive Director, The Public Schools Finance Board
Telephone: 204-945-6907
Email: rgoluch@gov.mb.ca

Highlighting and profiling the EfS activities that Manitoba is undertaking is important because all initiatives contribute to helping students acquire the knowledge and skills to contribute to a sustainable future. Although more work needs to be done to move EfS forward in Manitoba, all educational partners that have and are currently contributing to this initiative should be acknowledged. Thank you!

For more information about the activities of the sustainable development initiative, please contact

Christina McDonald, Ph.D.
Sustainable Development Coordinator, Sustainable Development Initiative
Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth/Advanced Education and Training
Telephone: 204-945-1924
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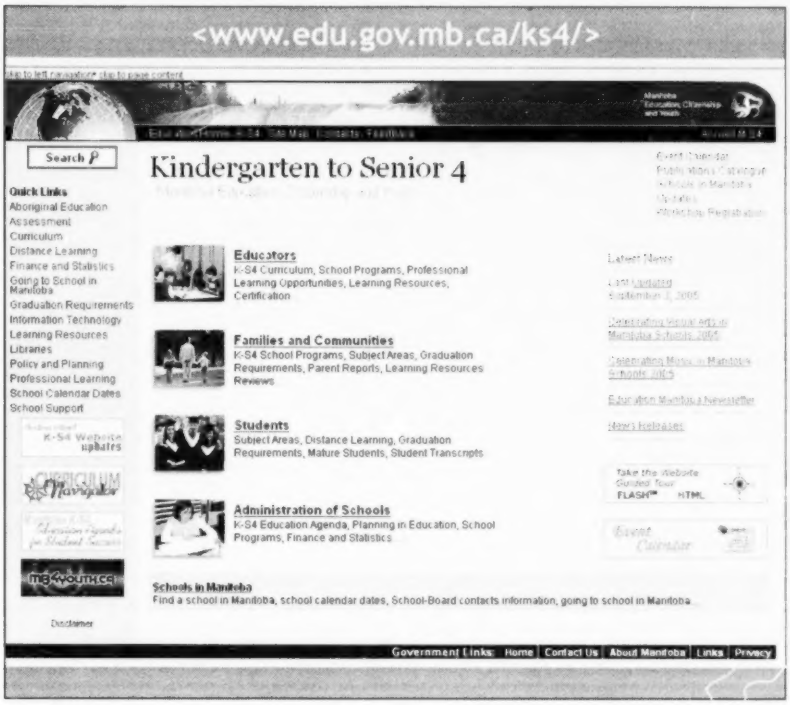
K-S4 Website: An Educational Resource



Did you know?

The Kindergarten to Senior 4 website

- was launched in 1997
- provides access to over 18,000 online documents
- receives an average of 600,000 page visits a month
- is visited monthly by users from over 120 countries

The K-S4 website offers access to

- information, resources, and services for educators, parents, and students
- curriculum, policy, and support documents
- searchable publications
- library services
- interactive applications

To keep up to date with the latest additions to the website, subscribe to the K-S4 website biweekly updates at <www3.edu.gov.mb.ca/ss/user/>.

We have redesigned the home page. Give us your feedback! Visit <www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/feedback.html>.

Basic French Resources Available

The Basic French curriculum consultants of the Bureau de l'éducation française Division are pleased to inform teachers that the following documents are available in PDF format on the Basic French website at <www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/cur/french/index.html>, or they may be purchased from the Manitoba Text Book Bureau, telephone 204-483-5040 or 1-866-771-6822 (toll-free in Manitoba).

Curriculum Documents

Français de base, 4e à la 6e année, programme d'études : document de mise en œuvre, 1998 (revised in 2003), MTBB #91707

Français de base, 7e et 8e années, programme d'études : document de mise en œuvre, 1997 (revised in 2003), MTBB #91708

Français de base, S1 à S4, programme d'études : document de mise en œuvre, 1998 (revised in 2003), MTBB #91699

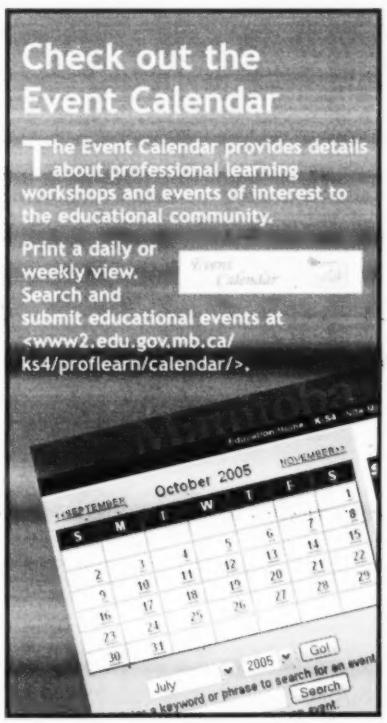
Support Document

Français de base, secondaire 1 à secondaire 4 – Se brancher en français : l'intégration des technologies de l'information et de la communication, 2004, MTBB #91468

Web-Based Basic French Courses

Senior 1 Basic French (10G) web-based course is now available! Teachers who wish to view or teach this new course should contact John Nedecky at jnedecky@gov.mb.ca.

Senior 2 Basic French (20G) web-based course will be available in February 2006.



Our Community School

By Margaret Dumas

The Cree name *Wapanohk* means "in the eastern direction from where the sun rises." It can also mean "a new dawn or day" and "a new beginning." It refers to renewal and change. The people of Wapanohk Community School have begun this journey towards making a real difference in the way education is being carried out here in Thompson, Manitoba.

A community school not only takes responsibility for educational aspects of its students, but also incorporates initiatives regarding the social, recreational, cultural, judicial, and health aspects of students and their families.

Wapanohk Community School has been able to increase the role of community in a meaningful way by embracing parent and community involvement and partnerships.

Wapanohk Community School (WCS) opened its doors in September 2001 to the first dual-track Cree language and community school in northern Manitoba. At the time of the school's inception, the First Nations community in Thompson was concerned that there were significant gaps within the educational system that needed to be addressed. Two major community surveys and a comprehensive needs assessment were completed to determine whether or not a community school with Cree language programming was seen as a necessity in Thompson. Approximately 85 per cent of the Aboriginal respondents were in favour of the development of such a school. A review of the school population at that time indicated a high rate of single-parent families, a large number of parents who were post-secondary students, poor social-support networks, and low socio-economic conditions of the families served in the school's catchment area.

Now in its fourth year of implementation, WCS has been able to increase the role of community in a meaningful way by embracing parent and community involvement and partnerships. Partnerships currently exist with 18 community organizations working with the school for students and families. The school serves as a networking hub with these many organizations to foster the social, health, educational, and community well-being and capacity building of the parents and children we serve.

Throughout the past four years WCS has provided many extra-curricular activities in the areas of music, sport, art, culture, and social development. There is a full-time community school connector (Loretta Dykun) who develops parent and family programming. The current parent council is vibrant, strong, and energetic. The healthy snack program for Kindergarten to Grade 4 students is one of many parent council initiatives, and plans for a daily nutritious breakfast program are in the works.

This past year WCS ran a new program entitled FAST (Families and Schools Together). The program was very successful, and 11 families graduated. Parent graduates and their families will now be involved in the two-year FASTWORKS follow-up program.

Results from surveys conducted throughout this past year reveal that we are making significant progress towards our targets regarding parent involvement. Recently, 94 per cent of parents surveyed said that they were "proud to be Wapanohk parents."

Wapanohk Community School is well on its way to building a "Community of Hope" here in the northern Manitoba community of Thompson.

Margaret Dumas
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School District of Mystery Lake
Thompson, Manitoba

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ISSN 0704-2671

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The newsletter includes articles from the education community and from Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth. Signed articles appearing in this magazine express the views of their authors and not necessarily those of the Department.

Distribution:

Education Manitoba is distributed free to schools in Manitoba. This newsletter can be viewed online at <www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/newsletter/>.

A similar document has been developed by the Bureau de l'éducation française Division for the Français and the French Immersion Programs.

Contact Information:

We invite contributions to *Education Manitoba*. When forwarding submissions, please include your name and telephone number, and send materials in print and electronic formats to:

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We also want to hear what you think about our newsletter. Please send your comments, ideas, and suggestions to the address specified above.

Manitoba
Building for the Future